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# Message Text

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43
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00

SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /072 W
---------- 092033
R 232358Z APR 76
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6855
INFO USDOC WASHDC
AMCONSUL OPORTO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BGENN EINV, PO
SUBJECT: LABOR PROBLEMS AT GENERAL MOTORS

REF: LISBON 2405

1. AS OF LATE APRIL 22, GENERAL MOTORS WORKERS AT ASSEMBLY PLANT CONTINUE ON 50 PERCENT SLOWDOWN STRIKE. MAJORITY OF WORKERS IN GM'S LISBON OFFICE AND WAREHOUSE FACILITIES HAVE RESUMED ALMOST NORMAL WORK SCHEDULE. HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO MANAGEMENT, TENSION IS RUNNING HIGH AT ALL FACILITIES. GM MANAGEMENT IS CONSIDERING ANNOUNCEMENT ON APRIL 26 OF 50 PERCENT REDUCTION IN WAGES FOR ASSEMBLY PLANT WORKERS.

2. SEVERAL MEETINGS AT LABOR MINISTRY HAVE SO FAR BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL. WORKERS' POSITION APPARENTLY HAS BEEN STRENGTHENED BY APRIL 14 LETTER FROM DIRECTOR GENERAL OF LABOR TO FIRM, CONFIRMING PREVIOUS DETERMINATION THAT GM IS METALLURGICAL FIRM AND ALL WORKERS ARE CONSIDERED METAL-LURGICAL WORKERS. APRIL 14 LETTER INCLUDED STATEMENT THAT DIRECTOR GENERAL'S DECISION WAS APPROVED BY SECRETARY OF STATE FOR LABOR, MARCELO CURTO. ON APRIL 20, GM REQUESTED CLARIFICATION OF EXACT LEGAL JUSTIFICATION FOR LETTER.
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MINISTRY HAS NOT YET RESPONDED.

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3. GM EUROPE OFFICIALS IN LONDON HAVE INFORMED LOCAL MANAGEMENT THAT THEY HAVE SUSPENDED ALL WORK ON PREPARATION OF A PROPOSAL TO CONVERT PORTUGUESE OPERATION FROM ASSEMBLY TO PARTS MANUFACTURE. CONVERSION PLAN WAS REQUESTED OF GM BY GOP DURING FEBRUARY MEETING WITH SECRETARIES OF STATE OF LIGHT INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND PUBLIC INVESTMENT AND WOULD HAVE ENTAILED CONSIDERABLE NEW INVESTMENT AND POSSIBLE EMPLOYMENT CREATION. GOP REQUEST WAS PART OF ITS PRESENT STUDY OF AUTOMOBILE SECTOR. LOCAL MANAGEMENT ATTRIBUTES SUSPENSION TO FEELING IN HEADQUARTERS THAT GOP MAKES NO EFFORT TO PREVENT ACTIONS, SUCH AS SLOWDOWN STRIKE, WHICH GM CONSIDERS ILLEGAL AND WHICH AGGRAVATE ALREADY PRECARIOUS GM PORTUGUESA'S FINANCIAL CONDITION.
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# Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994
**Channel Indicators:** n/a
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED
**Concepts:** COLLECTIVE BARGAINING, WAGES, LABOR RELATIONS, LABOR STRIKES, NEGOTIATIONS
**Control Number:** n/a
**Copy:** SINGLE
**Draft Date:** 23 APR 1976
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960
**Decaption Note:**
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED
**Disposition Approved on Date:**
**Disposition Authority:** saccheem
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004
**Disposition Event:**
**Disposition History:** n/a
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**Disposition Remarks:**
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED
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**Review Comment:** n/a
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**Review Transfer Date:**
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**Secure:** OPEN
**Status:** NATIVE
**Subject:** LABOR PROBLEMS AT GENERAL MOTORS
**TAGS:** BGEN, EINV, PO, GENERAL MOTORS
**To:** STATE
**Type:** TE
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